

WINDMILL FEBRUARY 2022 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—KERRVILLE

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES GROWING TOWARD

GOD-CENTERED WORSHIP • CHRIST-CENTERED SERVICE

SPIRIT-LED LIVES



Communicating, Building
Consensus, and Resolving Conflict in
Christian Communities



Dr. Karl A. Slaikeu

Dealing with Unfinished Business in Conflict Resolution: A Workshop on Healing and Closure.

Did you ever see the movie, *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*? Well, decades before it was turned into a movie, Barbie and I discovered the book and read it to our young children again and again and again. Tis my favorite children's book of all time, the only close rival being *Rosie and Michael*. Both books were written by Judith Viorst.

Accordingly, Viorst's first venture into writing a book for adults caught my attention and my credit card. Titled, *Necessary Losses*, its subtitle spells out the point: *The Loves, Illusions, Dependencies, and Impossible Expectations That All of Us Have to Give Up in Order to Grow*.

What losses have you suffered through the years? What unresolved conflicts have led to disappointment, discouragement, resentment, and even bitterness? Were they caused by the death of a loved one? Or, maybe it was a living person or persons who kicked you in the gut.

Reflecting on events in our church over the past few years, what have been your experiences of loss? What tragedies have broken your heart? What violations of your trust have soured your spirit? What seeds of anger germinated in your belly, what resentments were rooted in your soul, and what bitter fruit has rotted your relationships?

As I look to the day of passing the baton of leadership to your next installed pastor, my greatest yearning, and the most important piece of unfinished interim business, is to see each and every one of you be able to work through the losses associated with unresolved conflict so that the clouds in your life dissolve under the bright light of Christ's forgiving grace; ... and so that the next pastor can hit the ground running with a congregation ready to flourish in the season of ministry she or he offers for your next chapters of life in Christ's love.

Toward that end, I am extending this invitation to you and, through you, to all you love to gather with

me on one or both of the next two Saturday mornings, February 5 and 12, to participate in a liberating, growing experience titled: **Dealing with Unfinished Business in Conflict Resolution: A Workshop on Healing and Closure.**

Renowned psychologist and expert in organizational behavior, Dr. Karl A. Slaikeu, will lead the workshop in Ryan Hall at 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. each Saturday. Founder of *Preferred Path* Conflict Resolution, and author of several related books, Karl is a devout Christian, a member of Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church in Austin, and a friend in whom I have utmost trust.

The objective for the workshop is to equip participants (adults and youth) with tools grounded in Scripture and faith-based conflict resolution for use when seemingly “all else has failed to achieve healing and closure.”

Have you longed to find a way to forgive someone but haven't been able to “get there,” to “get over it”? Have you stuffed the feelings to maintain your sanity only to experience an eruption of those feelings at inopportune times?

Karl will walk us all through a model for achieving healing and closure that will be applied to a wide range of unresolved issues, including perplexing

leadership departures, pandemic-induced disruptions, friendship disconnects, and others.

You will be free simply to listen only or to engage in discussion and dialogue with Dr. Slaikeu and a team of facilitators. The agenda is designed to introduce and facilitate the practical application of tools on Feb. 5, followed by individual actions over the next week, and then on Feb. 12, a debrief on participants' experience of healing and closure using the tools. If you cannot attend both gatherings you are welcome to attend whichever one you can.

To save a seat, please register at the church office (amartin@fpckerrville.org; 830-257-3310) or reach out to me for further information (jhaberer@fpckerrville.org; cell: 610-730-6165).

In the hope of bringing closure to some terrible, horrible, no good, very bad days of old...
... may grace and reconciliation, wholeness and peace be with you and yours, and lastingly so,



Pastor Jack Haberer

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The PNC has turned a major corner since the holidays. We have begun interviewing actual candidates via zoom! This is an exciting advance to us, but we are still receiving pastor information forms and giving them our close attention as well.

We interviewed two candidates on zoom for about an hour each on successive Sunday afternoons, January 9 and 16. A few days after the second set, one of the candidates withdrew from the search as circumstances in the family's life had changed making it harder for them to contemplate a move at this time. We have invited two of them to visit with us again next week.

We are excited about all of our top choices, so far, but, of course, God is speaking to candidates, too. I guess the bottom line is that we are progressing but still not close to the end of this process. Please

*“Pick up the phone
and invite someone
to worship.”*

keep praying that God's choice becomes clear to both the committee and to the candidate!

Several of our candidates discussed their experiences following an interim where the hard work had not been done, either on the part of the interim pastor,

the congregation, or both. As we look ahead to our time with Jack and Barbie coming to a close, the PNC would like to urge each of us to reflect on what we may need to do to sustain our congregation. We know that the difficulties we experienced in the past few years with our former

pastors and with covid have drained many of our enthusiastic spiritual tanks. We believe the inability to gather as usual because of the ongoing pandemic has, for many of us, lengthened our healing time. Speaking candidly, as a congregation WE are ultimately the ones responsible for maintaining and growing our church. We are looking forward to hav-

ing new, energetic leadership at the helm, but when the sun sets, it is the congregation - the church family - who make a congregation. I pray we can come together to minimize the heavy lifting the new pastor has to do by doing the hard work now. What does this look like?

Becca Huchton and
Mary Ellen Summerlin



- Pick up the phone and invite someone to worship, study, or fellowship with you. I attended a church event that I was not planning to attend because someone personally reached out and invited me. I was so glad to be there and it encouraged me to be present with my church family.
- Pray for our healing hearts. Personally, I'm asking God to help me move forward. My church family means more to me than the pain that still tugs at my heart.
- The February workshops are also a good opportunity! Please check out the Windmill and sign up if it sounds like something useful for you.

Guayabales Mission 2022



Our mission trip to Guayabales got off to a somewhat rocky start with several of the Lubbock team members testing positive for COVID and Let Hope Begin Here's leader, Scott Robinson, prevented from flying with the group, too.

But Jane and the others made lemonade out of these lemons by recruiting the whole group, some of whom had really come along to work on other Let Hope Begin Here projects, to join in digging the foundation for the new teacher house.

Our hope for the teacher house in the village, planned in cooperation with Habitat for Humanity Guatemala, is that with a nice place to stay the teachers can stay over during the week and hold school more days during the rainy season. Neither one lives in Guayabales and often the state of the road makes it impossible for them to commute.

We sent five people to work on the house: Jane Ragsdale, Mitch Mitchell, Ross Newstead, all of whom have gone to Guayabales, Guatemala, before; plus Mac Naughton, a friend of Ross's and Kristy Vandenburg, a Kerrville Rotarian. Remember that the noon Rotary Club helped sponsor the house along with First Presbyterian. In addition four

Habitat workers are on the site as well as workers from Guayabales, even a couple of kids. This photo shows some at work on the first day, and you can see good progress.

The team has found wi-fi service in the bigger town where they stay (Chiquimulilla) to be even weaker this year, but we'll share more pictures as we get them and report fully after the team gets home Saturday, 1/29. In the meantime please keep praying for their success and safety. And here is Mitch, our master mason, enjoying some coconut with Octaviano, the village president looking on.



Bottom left: Kristy and Jane along with Darragh Gott, a nurse practitioner who consults with village women on basic health and hygiene. Bottom right: Mitch, our master mason, enjoying some coconut with Octaviano, the village president.



Youth Meals

Do you like to cook? Pick up a takeout order? Would you like to share a meal with the youth group?

We are looking for church members who are willing to provide one (or more) meals for our youth group this semester. There are almost weekly opportunities to provide lunch or dinner between now and the end of May. Meals serve 10-15 teenagers and adult sponsors. Please contact Emily McAllister emily.mcallister@sbcglobal.net if you are interested.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Mary Jo Reno Hawkins	1
Harlan Crouse	2
Debora Groot	3
Bill Matthews	5
Parker Huchton	5
Mary Muse	5
James Mooring	6
Bruce Story	6
Stan Brunsman	7
Liz Hoyer	7
Clarice Amann	8
Samantha Junkin	8
Sue Dyke	9
Martha Maxwell	9
Eunice McCoy	12
Stephen Loudon	13
Jan Huber	16
Jack Haberer	16
Blake Smith	17
Linda Ransom	17
Jared Jones	18
John Bervinkle	20
Lucy Croft	22
Lance Lidiak	23
Analaura McCrae	23
Kim Lohmeyer	24
Sue Endsley	27
Jean Sniffen	27
Danny Wagoner	28
Dick Layman	28



Mark your calendars!

March 1, 2022 5pm Pancake Supper! Please join our youth for a pancake supper fundraiser. Fluffy pancakes, crispy bacon & sausage, all the toppings, juice and coffee! All funds will go to support youth summer trips.

Giving Statements

The annual giving statements have been emailed or mailed this past week. Please check your inbox for your giving statement. If you would prefer a printed copy, contact the office at 830-257-3310.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 5 & 12

Dealing with Unfinished Business in Conflict Resolution: A Workshop on Healing and Closure. 8:30, Ryan Hall

February 6

Hakuna Matata Children's Choir Concert 3:00, Sanctuary

February 10

PW Day Circle Meeting 10:30, Ryan Hall

PW Night Circle Meeting 7:00, Ryan Hall

February 13

Souper Bowl of Caring

February 18

Camerata Concert 4:00, Sanctuary

February 19

Pop-Up Food Market 8:30, FLC Parking Lot

March 1

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:00, FLC



tacklehunger.org

Souper Bowl of Caring

What if everyone watching the Super Bowl gave just one dollar or one can of food?

The youth will again partner with Souper Bowl of Caring to combat food insecurity in Kerrville. Youth will be in the narthex following both services on February 13, 2022 to collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations. All donations will stay within our local community. Monetary donations can be made through the church website, please select "Souper Bowl" as the designated fund.



First Presbyterian
Church | Kerrville

Pastors:

Rev. Dr. Jack Haberer, Interim Pastor, Head-of-Staff
Rev. Susan Montoya, Parish Associate
Eldon Sheffer, Commissioned Ruling Elder

Ministry Staff:

Dr. Sabrina Adrian, Organist
Seth Lafler, Choir Director
Shannon Tuschak, Care Coordinator
Audrey Mitchell, Dir. Of Children's Ministry
Emily McAllister, Co-Dir. Of Youth Ministries
M' Leah Alexander, Co-Dir. Of Youth Ministries
Alysse O'Brien, Children's Music Director
Scott Russell, Children's Corner Director
Ann Reynolds, YES Center Director

Support Staff:

Mary Stone, Business Administrator
Alicia Martin, Asst. Administrator
Mike Garcia, Property Manager

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